paperboard and increase or decrease in production is as under:

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	Quantum of Production	Increase or decrease as compared to the corresponding period in previous year
1985-86	15.16	(+) 1.37
1986-87 (Provl.)	15.85	(+) 0.69
1987-88 (Target)	16.50	(+) 0.65

(c) The demand for paper and paperboard which was 14 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 is expected to increase to 18 lakh tonnes by 1989-90.

(d) Only certain special varieties of paper which are not available indigenously in adequate measure is being imported. The provisional figures of import of such paper in the last two years is as follows:—

Year	Import (in lakh tonnes)
1985-86	0.14
1986-87	0.51

Second refinery in Assam

11. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision in rsepect of the second refinery in Assam as per provisions of the Assam accord in 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) Assam Government had engaged Engineers India Ltd. for preparation of a pre-invesment feasibility report for setting up of a refinery under the Assam Accord. Engineers India Ltd. have since submitted the report to Assam Government, who are to take further action in this rgard.

Flaring of natural gas

12. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of natural gas that was flared during the last 3 years;

(b) whether there has been any increase or decrease in the flaring of gas; and

(c) what are the details of the steps taken by Government to minimise this waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) About 9000 MCM of gas was flared during the last three years. This loss, at a value of Rs. 1 lakh/MCM works out to Rs. 90 crores.

(b) The quantity of gas flared (as a percentage of production) had decreased over the past three years.

(c) The following steps have been taken by Government to minimise flaring;—

(i) Installation of additional compression facilities.

(ii) Encouraging consumers to take gas on a fall-back basis, when regular customers fail to lift the committed quantities. Towards this end, a 15 per cent discount for fall back users has been given in the pricing formula announced by Government.

(iii) Additional commitment of gas in the North-Eastern Region where the primary cause for flaring is low offitake by regular consumers.

Oil wells in Cauvery Basin

13. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cauvery basin is emerging as a promising oil field;

(b) if so, how many oil wells have been drilled in the Cauvery basin;

(c) what is the total quantity of oil which is being taken every day from these wells; and

(d) what is the total estimated oil potential in the Cauvery basin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) 31 wells onland and 20 wells offshore.

(c) Presently, on an average, a total of 36 tonnes per day of oil is being produced from 2 wells, namely, Narimanam-I and Kovikalbal-4, which are on extended production testing through Early Producion System.

(d) The exact hydrocarbon potential of this basin will be known only after further exploration.

Different prices of bulk drugs

14. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of bulk drugs are being produced by different producers at different costs although the drug is the same,

(b) if so, what are the names of those drugs, their manufacturers, and the cost of production of each such drug;

(c) what is the price of each bulk drug, the prices of whose formulations have been fixed by Government; and

(d) what are the names of finished medicines for which leader prices have been notified alongwith the composition and the price, strengthwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) Prices of about 360 bulk drugs and several thousand formulations based thereon are controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. The required details are voluminous and not readily available. The time and efforts required for collection of the required information will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Common selling prices of drugs

15. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed different prices of the same drug being produced by different manufacturers;